

4 OCT 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

FROM:

[redacted]
Director of Security

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SUBJECT: The SIGNA Society

1. This memorandum is for information only.

2. It is my understanding that you have agreed to address the Tenth Annual Convention of SIGNA in the Agency auditorium at 4 p.m. on 13 October 1983. [redacted] current president of SIGNA, has asked that I express his appreciation for your acceptance of the Society's invitation. The convention, drawing members from throughout the United States, will be held on 13 and 14 October 1983.

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3. The SIGNA Society, established in April 1970, is an organization composed of retired CIA security officers and it has a current membership in excess of 250. The Society, which by charter is nonprofit and nonpolitical, is most supportive of the Agency and assiduously defends it. Both Admiral Inman and Mr. John McMahon have addressed this group in the past, providing interesting insights on the Agency, without discussing classified information.

4. The majority of the SIGNA Society members were on board with the Office of Security in the early 1960's, when the Agency moved from temporary quarters in downtown Washington to the "new" Headquarters complex here in McLean, Virginia. Some of them would have been involved in the security planning related to the construction. Unless you feel otherwise, I thought it would be very relevant to have [redacted] Security Officer, New Building Project Office, provide an unclassified briefing on developments in his area of responsibility.

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5. In view of the composition of the audience, it is suggested that you provide some general comments on the current health of CIA and otherwise go on a sentimental walk through the Directorate, touching upon what's old and what's new in the

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organization. You might wish to wave the flag somewhat and address some of the following points:

- * Patriotism is not out of style in the Agency, and we are still staffed with a large body of highly dedicated and hardworking civil servants who are sincerely concerned about the national security of the United States. We have fine intelligence officers.

- * The leadership of the organization enjoys the support and backing of the White House in strengthening the Agency, after the post-Watergate era of "doing more with less."

- * Agency employees face a lot of risks, particularly in the overseas arena, and there are few compensating benefits or financial rewards for the dangers and discomforts experienced by Agency families.

- * Our Office of Personnel continues to face the challenging task of bringing on board quality people - "the cream of the crop." The DCI and the DDCI are especially concerned that we attract the right types for our Career Training Program. There is great pressure to expedite the screening process without lowering standards.

- * Our Office of Logistics has to be concerned about a Headquarters Building constructed over two decades ago, as we have moved into a computer age. Considerable attention is being given to "quality of life" and space issues, as the Agency grows and expands.

- * The Office of Communications has been operating with antiquated equipment, and a major modernization effort is underway so that we can function at peak efficiency with state-of-the-art telecommunications.

- * A veritable revolution is taking place in terms of computers and word processors - a very costly program. Tremendous efforts are being made to stay in step, both domestically and overseas, with the significant changes underway. There is a tremendous impact throughout the Agency as we get ready for paperless offices.

- * The Office of Security continues to be plagued by leaks to the news media concerning intelligence related matters, and this is a very frustrating business. The DCI is deeply concerned about unauthorized disclosures in the Intelligence Community and on Capitol Hill.

* Our Office of Information Services continues to face the task of releasing data under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts. There is a great need for legislative relief in this area, and the Agency is exploring all possible options.

* The Office of Medical Services is tasked with providing the very best in medical support to our Agency population, which is under heavy stress because of workload, relocations, financial pressures, physical danger, and family pressure.

* The Office of Training and Education has to respond to a wide variety of training requirements from all major elements of the Agency. We have to develop capable senior managers, and there is renewed interest in rotational assignments in order to "broaden horizons" to prepare the leaders of the future.

6. As the bottom line, the Directorate of Administration continues to be a support organization to line elements in the Agency, and we are making every effort to be responsive, dynamic, and people-oriented. The operating conditions may be a bit more difficult in 1983, but we still maintain a tradition of excellence and a "can do" attitude. The Agency has always maintained a technological leadership role in the United States Government, and our support organization has to stay in step with these changes, without losing touch with the people. Our personnel remains our most precious commodity.

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

The SIGNA Society

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

Deputy Director of Security (P&M)

DATE

9 OCT 1983

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STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

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